

REGENTS EMSC COMMITTEE
September 15, 2009

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Graduation Rate – Continuing Discussion on Policy Issues - The Regents continued their discussion on policy issues concerning the graduation rate and the phase-out of the local diploma. The Regents were given additional data that was requested to help inform the discussion about those issues. The data included information on how the scheduled phase-out of the local diploma for general education students will work; the breakdown of student performance on the Regents examinations; the impact of eliminating the local diploma on the graduation rate; how the current cohort definition works and what the changes will be when we begin using the new federal definition, and the impact of using an extended year graduation rate for accountability purposes. Members of the Committee suggested additional related issues for future discussions including how many Regents examinations should be required for graduation, the number of required credits and subjects required for graduation, alignment between policy and practice to ensure an opportunity to learn for all students and consequences for not meeting the graduation rate goal and targets.

REGENTS HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE
September 15, 2009

MATTERS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION

Teacher Education Discussion – Commissioner-Elect David Steiner, joined by Debra Colley and Catalina Fortino, Co-Chairs of the Professional Standards and Practices Board for Teaching, led a discussion about the future of teacher preparation. The Committee suggested issues for future discussion including possible alignment with international standards, increased mentoring opportunities, benefits of performance based and value-added assessments, and strengthening the use of technology.